FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Latin America

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ARGENTINA

Montes Stresses Terrorism, Malvinas Issues in UN B 1
Martinez de Hoz Negotiates $250 Million Loan B 2
Viola Comments on National Policy Questions B 3
'SOMOS' Views Massera's Political Ambitions [22 Sep] B 4
Hungarian Trade Mission Arrives for Talks B 5
Peruvian Aeronautics Minister Concludes Visit B 5
Briefs: Armored Regiment; B 5

BOLIVIA

'Disagreement' Marks Opening of Dialog With FRI C 1
Pereda Meets ADRN Leaders C 2
Hunger Strike in Riberalta Leads to Violence C 2
Atoroma Miners Declare Emergency Over Wages C 2

BRAZIL

Azeredo Criticizes Arms Race in General Assembly Speech D 1
[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 26 Sep]
Space Technology Accord With European Agency Ratified D 2
Briefs: Bulgarian Soybean Factory D 2

CHILE

Progress of Court's Letelier Studies Reported E 1
COMIBOL Charged With Defaulting on Rail Fees E 1
Indian Groups Protest New Land Use Measures E 1
Group Termed Marxist E 2

COLOMBIA

Two Presidents Demand UN Intervention in Nicaragua F 1
Volunteers Heed Leftist Call To Fight Against Somoza F 1

PARAGUAY

National Front Calls for Release of Prisoners [HOY 23 Sep] H 1
Status of Two Emboscada Prisoners [ABC COLOR 24 Sep] H 1

PANAMA

Speech at UN by Acting Foreign Minister Ozores N 1
Anti-Somoza Volunteer Brigade To Go Underground N 2
Leave for Undisclosed Location N 4
[STAR AND HERALD 28 Sep]

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Communique Issued With Venezuela on Good Will Visit P 1
Government Will Not Accept OAS Observer Forces P 1
Nicaraguan Gunboats Reported in National Waters P 1
Three Alleged Nicaraguan Spies Arrested by Authorities P 2
Cubanization Risk in Nicaragua Seen by President Carazo P 2
[Madrid EL PAIS 26 Sep]

GUATEMALA

New Negotiations on Belize To Begin With UK P 4

HONDURAS

Thirteen Sandinists Arrested Near Border P 4
University Brigades Will Monitor Nicaraguan Border P 5
Bomb Threats Made Against Venezuelan Embassy P 5

NICARAGUA

Somoza Orders Release of Top Opposition Leaders P 5
Conservative Leader Denies Acceptance of U.S. Mediation P 6
Government Beginning Consolidation Phase P 6
Daily Survey of Operating Businesses Ends P 7
Construction Work Reported Back to Normal P 7

CUBA

Fidel Castro Meets With Sandinist Leader Borges Q 1
Borges Holds Press Conference Q 1
Further Details Q 2
Results of U.S. Envoy's Visit to Nicaragua Reported Q 2
Malmierca Meets With Foreign Ministers at UN Q 2
Havana Reports Bombing of U.S. Plane Bound for Cuba Q 3
Arnaldo Milian Notes Progress in 1978 Tuber Production Q 3
Trade Union Delegation Visiting Guyana Q 3
Justice Minister Arrives in Lisbon En Route to Angola Q 4
Foreign Trade Ministry Visited by Tanzanian Delegation Q 4
Rodriguez Llompart Receives Kuhanga Q 4
Miret Prieto Meets With Reunion Communist Party Leader Q 4

CARIBBEAN

JAMAICA

Namibian Students To Arrive for Technical Training S 1
$16.5 Million Loan Granted by UK for Development [DAILY GLEANER 22 Sep] S 1

OTHER COUNTRIES

PERU

Aeronautics Minister To Visit Bolivia's Pereda V 1

URUGUAY

Parties Must Reorganize, Says Army Spokesman V 1

VENEZUELA

Aircraft Return From Mission in Panama V 1

MONTES STRESSES TERRORISM, MALVINAS ISSUES IN UN

PY280130Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1545 GMT 27 Sep 78 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 27 Sep (TELAM)--Argentina today denounced criminal terrorism, one of the worst dangers threatening the contemporary world; those who welcome terrorists with pleasure, as if they were the victims of an unjust social order, as some European capitals do; and governments which try to become judges, while attempting to monopolize the cause of human rights.

In presenting our country's position at the United Nations, the foreign minister, Vice Adm Oscar Antonio Montes, said that an unscrupulous fanaticism and a dreadful threat is now confronting the world. On behalf of the international community he severely condemned the indiscriminate violence of senseless crimes which have nothing to do with struggles for freedom and national independence.

He stated: "I regret that other sectors of the world do not respond appropriately to the terrorist minorities which commit criminal acts, depriving innocent people of their freedom and lives." He added that the attitude of countries which receive terrorists as victims implies an open and biased political intolerance.

On the basis of Argentina's suffering, Montes stated that it is high time that the principles of law be put into practice instead of drawing up mechanisms to deal with accomplished facts. He made a call for universal conscientiousness to recognize the need to create suitable bases to end this scourge.

In this regard, he noted the proposal by a European country, to the effect that governments have the duty not to tolerate within their territory terrorist associations which plan and carry out these crimes, saying that "we cannot disregard the danger which the presence of these groups in any given country poses to the normal development of relations among nations."

He considered equally serious the attitude of some countries which, in complete ignorance of another country's problems, try to become judges of government actions and realities which they cannot understand, while trying to monopolize the cause of human rights.

While reluctant to respect basic principles of international law--such as the safeguarding of a nation's domestic sovereignty--they point their finger accusingly and resort to methods of political and economic coercion, according to their choice. Montes maintianed that the international community is confronted with a deplorable abuse of power which generates resentments and causes damage to entire countries.

Montes concluded this aspect of his speech by adding that Argentina attaches special importance to this issue. He said: "I should repeat that, for our country, the true defense of human rights can be carried out only after abandoning sterile recriminations, and through a joint effort undertaken with honesty and mutual respect."

On behalf of our country Foreign Minister Montes reasserted Argentina's sovereign rights over the Malvinas Islands and reaffirmed its firm intention to recover them once and for all, and to solve the problem created by the illegal occupation of the islands by the British through peaceful negotiations.

He summarized what has been achieved bilaterally up to the moment as a result of the United Nations' efforts, but he did emphasize that "the negotiations have been progressing at a pace which in no way accords with the importance which my country attaches to the issue, and with the urgent character which has been attributed to the issue by the UN General Assembly."

Despite these obstacles Montes expressed his confidence that good sense and the political vision which Great Britain has shown in other cases will allow us to arrive at a just solution for this century-old conflict. He expressed his gratitude for the support offered by the nonalined nations to find a solution to the dispute during the recent conference in Belgrade.

Vice Admiral Montes also discussed these issues: Protectionism: Argentina believes it is necessary to firmly reject the protectionist tendencies of nine industrialized nations with regard to imports, a policy which has created a new source of worldwide tension and which unfavorably affects weaker nations. Montes expressed support for more open and free international trade.

Interference: Montes condemned the new weapon of pressure used by certain industrialized nations in bilateral as well as multilateral circles. This includes setting conditions for financial operations based on the recipient country's internal political situation. The only acceptable parameters for their acceptance or rejection should be of a strictly economic nature. [words indistinct] the use of economic power to serve political hegemony.

Law of the sea: Argentina views with concern the setback in the negotiations, that is, the present proposals for unilateral legislation to allow the exploitation of international sea bottoms undertaken by some industrialized nations, while ignoring the United Nations' resolutions.

New economic order: It is necessary to equate our present reality to the structure of international economic relations, and the goal is (?nothing less) than the establishment of a new international economic order. Argentina will continue to actively participate in the decisionmaking process designed to revitalize (?dialog) among all nations as the only [word indistinct] instrument. In this spirit Argentina will be present at Manila for the fifth conference of the [words indistinct] on trade and development.

Nuclear energy: Argentina was designated by the nonalined nations as one of the coordinating nations in the question of the utilization of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, and will contribute all its efforts so that cooperation among developing nations in this field can be facilitated as much as possible, with the necessary flow and [word indistinct] to insure [word indistinct] benefits.

MARTINEZ DE HOZ NEGOTIATES $250 MILLION LOAN

PY270410Y Buenos Aires Radio Belgrano in Spanish 0130 GMT 27 Sep 78 PY

[Text] It was reported this afternoon that Argentine Economy Minister Jose Martinez de Hoz has obtained a $250-million loan from a consortium of five banks to finance oil prospecting and exploitation by government oil deposits [YPF], to supply ourselves. At the same time, the IDB granted Argentina two loans amounting to $105 million which will be used to finance the expansion of the Bahia Blanca petrochemical plant, thus giving a new impetus to this sector. The total cost of this petrochemical complex has been set at $337.5 million.

In Washington, Minister Martinez de Hoz met with IBRD President Robert McNamara, with whom he discussed the financial support of this organization to Argentina. The minister also spoke with Peruvian Economy and Finance Minister Javier Silva Ruete and the executive vice president of the International Finance Corporation.

[Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish at 2100 GMT on 26 September reported that the consortium of banks which granted the loan to Argentina is made up of the Societe Generale de Paris, the Japanese Industrial Bank, the Deutsch Genesenchaft, the Kuhn Loeb-Lehman Brothers, and the Sumitomo Bank of Japan]

VIOLA COMMENTS ON NATIONAL POLICY QUESTIONS

PY271402Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2219 GMT 26 Sep 78 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 26 Sep (NA)--The commander in chief of the army, Lt Gen Roberto Eduardo Viola, today reiterated the support of the "government and military" for the development of the current economic program, while warning that "two or three aspects worry us, but we believe that this is the last part of an effort to really clean up our economy."

"To explain it more clearly, first of all we are concerned with the kind of recession we are experiencing, that the entire country may be experiencing; the second concern is inflation, which is still continuing; and third is the possibility or need to increase the buying power of the entire country." General Viola made these remarks in answer to questions after the end of the monthly luncheon of the Argentine Chamber of Advertisers, to which he was specially invited along with the secretary general and the under secretary general of the army chief of staff, Gen Reynaldo Bignone and Gen Juan Manuel Bayon.

In summary, General Viola's answers to the different questions were the following:

Border matters with Chile: At the end of the current negotiations "and without disregarding what we believe to be our legitimate sovereign rights, good sense will prevail."

Political proposal: "This proposal will be submitted to a consultation and dialog. The government of the armed forces can only achieve a stable democracy through consensus."

Law of professional associations: "Within what I believe will be a moderate period, the government will announce its opinion on whether a single central union should be formed."

Stability of the government: "1 August was not the beginning of the new stage in the process of national reorganization" and "great changes should not be expected."

The situation of national industry: "I believe industrialists should not be so afraid of this lack of protection they are claiming. If it were true, I believe that we might have made some mistakes."

With regard to the full reestablishment of the individual rights and guarantees provided by the national constitution, General Viola said: "I believe, to be truthful, that there are few limitations on individual rights. I believe the terrorist criminals, who have now been practically eliminated, are the ones who have violated individual rights." He pointed out that "the government of the process of national reorganization did not really establish harsh coercive measures aimed at severely limiting guarantees. I would like to say that it would be very difficult for a revolutionary government--not only in our country, but in any other part of the world--to maintain, let us say, a state of law or a state of freedom like that currently in force in Argentina."

He added: "I believe that those who are really deprived of their individual guarantees are not the good people, the working people, the normal people of Argentina, but only the subversives. And we are morally and materially obliged to deny them their individual rights and guarantees."

He refused an answer on "the formation or rejection of a single central union," but said that he hoped "the national government will not wait too long to state an opinion, or I will have to state my opinion, which may be wrong or against the policy which will finally be approved."

Asked about the possibility "of a peaceful solution" to the border conflict with Chile, he said he has no doubt that bilateral negotiations "are the best means, under the current circumstances," to solve the conflict.

General Viola explicitly pointed out that "our rights to sovereignty are not being discussed in these negotiations--that is, what we believe to be our sovereign rights are not being discussed."

General Viola said that the Argentine Government gives "basic importance to relations with the United States."

He said: "I believe that due to a misinterpretation of our national reality and interference which is not really justifiable, we experienced a deterioration in our relations which has not been beneficial."

He added that greater knowledge of the Argentine situation on the part of the United States has led that country to improve "its attitude toward us and, of course, our attitude toward the United States."

He emphasized that the main difficulties which can appear in these bilateral relations are the problems of human rights and "the possibility that the presence of an Argentine military government is not too pleasing to U.S. democracy."

He said: "We believe that these two problems are mainly circumstantial."

He added his belief that the criticism of human rights "is the result of a situation imposed by a struggle which neither the armed forces nor the Argentine people really sought."

'SOMOS' VIEWS MASSERA'S POLITICAL AMBITIONS

PY280039Y Buenos Aires SOMOS in Spanish 22 Sep 78 p 21 PY

["La Semana" column by SOMOS Deputy Chief Editor Gustavo J. Landivar]

[Excerpt] There is no doubt in anybody's mind that the last public act of Adm Eduardo Emilio Massera (ret), former commander in chief of the navy, was essentially a political one. His statement to the Argentine people must be taken, not as a farewell speech by the commander in chief of one of the armed forces branches who participated actively in the most important events during the past few years, but as the first utterance of a citizen who is jumping into the political arena, and he is doing so with the experience which very few have been able to acquire in Argentina. As commander in chief of the navy, he was in office during almost the entire Peronist government which he helped to overthrow. And he also actively participated in the military government which emerged on 24 March 1976. He governed for 30 months, but with the characteristic,that, while sharing power with the other commanders in chief, he also played the role of a critic when he thought it was appropriate. And thus he said goodbye, or rather, he publicly began his political activity. And we say publicly, because privately Massera was engaging in politics a long time ago.

All those who had occasion to talk to him know that his main concern is the creation of a civic trend, practically without differences among its political factions, capable of finding the solutions which the country has been seeking for many years. Perhaps not all his interlocutors are capable of indicating political guidelines, even less so those who during their regime were unable either to propose or to implement them. But Massera's concern is legitimate, and so, in this regard, is the concern of every citizen who sincerely loves his country.

In addition, and we feel this is the most important of all, Massera is fulfilling his duty as a citizen, whether we like his guidelines or not. And he is doing so because he is filling a gap which unfortunately has been left by other citizens who also have the responsibility of sincerely working for their country, and who, incredibly, would rather dodge the burden. This is an attitude which resulted in Argentina's tragic political history. Because while some would rather engage in other activities, like worrying about such things as populism, and especially Marxism, he was feverishly working toward assuming the leading political positions.

HUNGARIAN TRADE MISSION ARRIVES FOR TALKS

PY271831Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1735 GMT 27 Sep 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Sep (TELAM)--A Hungarian mission headed by Hungarian [deputy] Foreign Trade Minister Sandor Ovardi arrived in Argentina today to discuss with the Argentine Government various issues regarding trade between the two countries.

The delegation and Argentine officials will review issues regarding trade agreements of mutual interest, exchange of technology and tourism, among others.

This visit is part of a second round of meetings between the two countries. The first round was held during the tour made by the then secretary of foreign trade and international economic negotiations, Alberto Fraguio, through the socialist countries.

The Hungarian mission arrived at Ezeiza international airport at noon today.

PERUVIAN AERONAUTICS MINISTER CONCLUDES VISIT

PY271733Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1518 GMT 27 Sep 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Sep (NA)--The Peruvian minister of aeronautics and commanding general of the Peruvian Air Force, Lt Gen Jorge Tamayo de la Flor, left for his country today [as received: Tamayo is scheduled to visit Bolivia today] after a 1-week stay here. Gen Orlando Ramon Agosti, commander in chief of the Argentine Air Force, and other authorities bade farewell to the Peruvian military leader at noon today at the Metropolitan Airport.

Agosti was decorated by Tamayo de la Flor last night with Peru's Order of the Sun.

BRIEFS

ARMORED REGIMENT--Mendoza, 27 Sep (TELAM)--The army arsenals command has demonstrated two types of tanks for the local press. One of them is a Sherman tank of U.S. origin, reconditioned and reequipped in the country, the other is an AMX-13 tank, built in Argentina according to French designs. A military spokesman has said that the two types of tanks will be part of an armored regiment which will be stationed at San Rafael, Mendoza Province. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1759 GMT 27 Sep 78 PY]

'DISAGREEMENT' MARKS OPENING OF DIALOG WITH FRI

PY271428Y La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1130 GMT 27 Sep 78 PY

[Text] The dialog between the political opposition fronts and the government was officially initiated yesterday. No dates were set or agreements reached, and discord characterized the leaders of the Revolutionary Front of the Left [FRI] for 2 and 1/2 hours. After the meeting Rico Toro was evasive and stated that the meeting marked the beginning of a cordial dialog between the government and the opposition parties. It was a dialog [words indistinct], said Rico Toro, but let us listen to him making the statement:

[Begin recording] This is just another dialog the government has opened within the pattern it has been trying to establish for the expression [words indistinct], a framework of complete tranquillity and understanding of their problems. [end recording]

Rico Toro said: We all agreed upon the need to constitutionalize the country. There have been extensive proposals, but we agreed that social peace is needed to guarantee the democratization process. He also (?said) that there will be continuing dialogs in search of an agreement which will satisfy everyone. He confirmed that no dates had been fixed so far.

[Begin recording] We agreed on the need to democratize the country. They and all good Bolivians understand that length of time is a secondary problem in comparison with the guarantees now reigning in the country--which we hope will prevail for a long time--and that true democratization will be an example for the continent, when it arrives. [end recording]

On the other hand, Manuel Morales Davila, the FRI representative, called the meeting a preparation for the dialog which the government will have to hold with all the fronts jointly. Morales Davila said: We pointed out the need to hold the talks between the government and the parties at the presidential level. Morales Davila also said: We announced to the minister the demand that the dialog be held with all political fronts, but jointly, not one by one. He said that this is important in order to reach basic agreements which would make it possible to find a much more prompt solution. He added: The government laid before us a timetable which has been established within a so-called governing plan which will be duly studied by the FRI. Although he did not wish to report the specific government proposals, Morales Davila confirmed that the government hade a proposal which differs from the one presented by the FRI. When he was asked about the points of disagreements between the government and the FRI proposals, Manuel Morales Davila said:

[Begin recording] The timetable differs from (?ours) because it does not accept elections in the first half of next year, which is our proposal. Other disagreements have appeared with the government study program regarding the law of political parties. We have proposed that the law of political parties be studied by the parliament, but it seems that the government believes it necessary that there should be at least a basic law of political parties right now. There are other disagreements, which we believe are less important, between the positions taken by the government and ours. We have proposed that no commission be formed to study the electoral law and that elections be called on the basis of the present electoral law after a repeal of the complementary and supplementing decrees which changed the nature of the law in the last elections. [end recording]

Pereda Meets ADRN Leader

PY280344Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Sep 78 PY

[By special reporter (Daniel Alarcon Morales) from Government House]

[Text] An important meeting between President Pereda Asbun and the leaders of the Democratic Alliance of National Revolution [ADRN] has just ended. The meeting was attended by Victor Paz Estenssoro and Walter Guevara Arce. According to Victor Paz Estenssoro, the meeting between the ADRN and the president took place in an atmosphere of friendliness. He also said that it is possible that President Pereda Asbun will call general elections, thereby achieving the democratization of the country. In his contact with the press Victor Paz Estenssoro delivered (?a paper) containing eight concrete proposals: 1) a call for elections during the first half of 1979; 2) annulment of current electoral registers and the opening of new ones; 3) [words indistinct] of the registers over a sufficiently long period of time; 4) organization of the National Electoral Court by random selection among former national presidents, former presidents of the Supreme Court, former university rectors, former union leaders, former commanders in chief of armed forces branches, and so forth; 5) abrogation of the law which prohibits union leaders from participating in the elections; 6) proportional distribution of congressional seats in accordance with the percentage of votes received by each party; 7) ratification of the government's commitment that there will be no official candidates; and 8) exclusion of the maritime outlet problem from electoral campaigns on the grounds that it is beyond all political differences. [recorded passage indistinct]

HUNGER STRIKE IN RIBERALTA LEADS TO VIOLENCE

PY280136Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 27 Sep 78 PY

[Text] This is a last minute report. Over 300 persons have gone on a hunger strike in Riberalta City demanding the release of the president of the local civic committee and of 17 teachers who have been arrested by military personnel. The strike is being held at the (?El Carmen) Church of Riberalta, which is completely surrounded by troops, according to reports of [words indistinct]. The sources also stated that approximately 30 persons have been injured as a result of the violence unleashed by the army. The arrests took place because [name indistinct], president of the local civic committee, and part of its members demanded the resignation of the city mayor. Riberalta natives in La Paz also reported that the radio station, San Miguel de Riberalta had been destroyed by army personnel this afternoon. They said that over 500 Riberalta natives living in La Paz would go on hunger strike tomorrow.

ATOROMA MINERS DECLARE EMERGENCY OVER WAGES

PY280349Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Sep 78 PY

[Text] The miners of Atoroma have declared a state of emergency until the appropriate officials provide a solution for the wage problem. The Atoroma miners' communique declares: "We support the Mineworkers Federation of Bolivia [FSTMB] which continues to seek an official response to demands made by this sector." The communique adds that the Atoroma Joint Mineworkers Union strongly rejects the proposal by medium-sized mining enterprise associations that the demands be negotiated on an enterprise-by-enterprise basis. The mineworkers of Atoroma also threatened to take stronger measures if the problems which are troubling this sector are not solved as soon as possible.

AZEREDO CRITICIZES ARMS RACE IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPEECH

PY271556Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 26 Sep 78 p 7 PY

[Speech by Foreign Minister Antonio Azeredo da Silveira at opening of the UN General Assembly 25 September]

[Excerpt] Mr President, I cannot refrain from mentioning a problem which is placing the very existence of man under increasing danger. Obviously I am referring to the arms race, and especially the nuclear arms race.

Today's situation demands decisive action by the international community, which for many years has watched complacently the unrestrained accumulation of weapons of mass destruction by a few countries, and the terrible and constant improvement by those same countries of weapons capable of destroying human life on earth. What threatens each of us in this hall, and each of the 250 countries we represent, is not only the danger that those weapons may one day be used, but also the very existence of these arsenals.

The spirit of openness which should prevail at this General Assembly leads me to say, with respect to this issue, that the results of the first special session of the assembly dedicated to disarmament, which was held in May and June of this year, were disappointing. Even though we were aware of the limitations which were inevitable because of the realities of power, we were hopeful that this special session would constitute a first, although modest, step toward solution of priority problems in the field of nuclear weapons.

Conscious of the need to insure cooperation of all nations, particularly of the nuclear powers, we all agreed that the correct way to work was to seek solutions through consensus. Yet we still helped to block our goals with increasingly vague versions of texts, effectively turning away from disarmament. We sometimes omitted, or made ambiguous of ineffective, entire passages concerning really urgent problems in the field of nuclear weapons. The final document contains serious omissions and places disproportionate emphasis on aspects of secondary importance to the general issue of disarmament.

Since it was not possible to make substantial progress in fields of greater importance and urgency during the special session, it is obvious that the principal practical results of the disarmament session are in the field of procedural mechanisms for future negotiations and debate. We are willing to continue contributing in good faith to all constructive efforts in this field, and we support the decisions concerning the establishment of a new negotiating committee and the new commission on disarmament. As much as it can, Brazil will make every effort for these two bodies to reach results urgently needed in the field of disarmament, and in particular nuclear disarmament.

The obstacles which certain developed countries try to pose to the acquisition by other nations of technology essential to development, including nuclear technology for peaceful uses, is only one field in which highly industrialized nations--aware of the increasing economic and political importance of technology in a world whose natural resources are becoming more and more limited--systematically try to restrict or impede the access of developing nations to the technology necessary for the greater welfare of their peoples. The situation, which is tending to become more serious, concerns us in particular because it is interfering more and more with the already disappointing north-south economic relations, which are characterized in practically all aspects by the increasing use of policies such as protectionism, contrary to the establishment of a more just and equitable world economic order.

With respect to this, it is regrettable that such a lack of political will on the part of a large number of our developed partners should continue to hinder the progress of constructive negotiations. Two weeks ago in this same hall, the seventh session of the Conference on the Law of the Sea ended. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to be able to say that that conference, the most recent in a long series, produced good results. Unfortunately that's not what happened. During the greater part of the conference, which was held in Geneva, we noted some progress on important issues, but the meeting in New York seems to have produced setbacks and delays. This prevents us from saying that we are even slightly satisfied with what was accomplished.

The prospect of seeing the unilateral adoption of national legislation on the issue under negotiation, in direct contradiction to Resolution 2749 (XXV), which was unanimously approved, did not contribute toward good results. We still cannot accurately estimate the consequences of this type of action, but it is impossible to witness it without deep concern. It should be recalled that the U.N. Conference on Law of the Sea has been judged the most important conference held since the San Francisco conference, when our organization was created and our charter established.

Another flagrant recent example of this situation was the suspension some days ago of work of the organ which, theoretically, should have decisive influence in the progress of specific negotiations within the north-south dialog.

Brazil will remain committed to the promotion and improvement of international cooperation. However, Brazil is witnessing sadly the gradual fading of the encouraging picture that resulted from the seventh special session of the General Assembly. Therefore, this 33d session will be of crucial importance in determining the future of the north-south dialog.

It is in light of these facts that we attribute special importance to the development of mechanisms designed to overcome the deficiencies in north-south cooperation. In this respect, Brazil has encouraged and supported efforts designed to promote, broaden and intensify cooperation--horizontal and equitable cooperation--among countries which are struggling to develop. The recent UN conference on technical cooperation among developing nations was an important landmark in multilateral efforts in this field.

SPACE TECHNOLOGY ACCORD WITH EUROPEAN AGENCY RATIFIED

PY280058Y Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 27 Sep 78 PY

[From the "Congressional Report"]

[Text] In a special session held last night, the Senate approved a bill ratifying an agreement signed between Brazil and the European space agency regarding the establishment and utilization of satellite tracking equipment in Brazilian territory; and a protocol regarding the installation of equipment in the Natal launch site and the utilization in that site of [word indistinct] launch program and the training of Brazilian personnel in launch technology.

BRIEFS

BULGARIAN SOYBEAN FACTORY--Recife--The Bulgarian ambassador to Brazil has stated here that the Bulgarian Government seeks an agreement with the Rio Grande do Sul State Government to establish a soybean processing plant in this state. The plant would be able to process $20 million worth of soybeans a year. [Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0000 GMT 27 Sep 78 PY]

PROGRESS OF COURT'S LETELIER STUDIES REPORTED

PY271313Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service *in Spanish* 1100 GMT 27 Sep 78 PY

[Text] Israel Borquez can continue as judge of the petition for extradition of three Chilean Army officers presented by the United States in relation to the Letelier case. This was confirmed by the Third Chamber of the Supreme Court, which did not accept the petition presented by lawyer Alfredo Etcheberry, the representative of U.S. interests in this case.

Etcheberry also presented another motion against Borquez's decision to hold a secret summary proceedings. The case may be considered on Friday of next week.

At the same time, two translators are verifying the exact translation of the documents and evidence presented by the United States from English to Spanish. It is estimated that this may be finished by Thursday afternoon.

Sources close to the courts indicated that Borquez will begin the interrogation of General Contreras, Colonel Espinoza and Captain Fernandez next Friday. This will be done in the military hospital where the three officers are lodged.

COMIBOL CHARGED WITH DEFAULTING ON RAIL FEES

PY271322Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Sep 78 PY

[Text] The Mining Corporation of Bolivia [COMIBOL] has not paid freight charges to the Antofagasta-Bolivia railroad line since 1 November 1977, when the last price readjustment authorized by the railroad was carried out.

The railroad is demanding payment for the transportation of minerals from Bolivia to the northern Chilean port. For this reason (Luis Sutherland), general manager of the railroad company, is visiting Santiago. He is initiating action with the Foreign Ministry, since all efforts to obtain payment for the debt have failed in La Paz.

COMIBOL is the only Bolivian company which refuses to pay the new rates. The increase was imposed after the railroad's freight charges had been virtually frozen for more than 27 years.

In addition, it was pointed out that the increase totalled 45 percent, not 60 percent as stated in reports from Bolivia.

INDIAN GROUPS PROTEST NEW LAND USE MEASURES

PY271455Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 27 Sep 78 PY

[Text] The (Ranquil) Indian and Peasant Confederation has requested strict enforcement of the agrarian reform law and repeal of decree No 2247, which dissolves the Agrarian Reform Corporation [CORA].

(Sergio Villalobos), leader of the (Ranquil) confederation, noted that the agriculture minister's announcement regarding dissolution of CORA as of 31 December 1978 is another indication of the power which large landowners have again acquired.

During a press conference (Villalobos) added that apparently the agriculture minister did not consider the effect of dissolving an organization which still holds about 4 million hectares. The peasant leader noted: The fact that a number of assigned lots have still not been regularized indicates that this situation has not been considered. The (Ranquil) confederation also disclosed statistics which it believes reflect a decrease in [agricultural] production and lack of planning [words indistinct] future consequences.

According to these statistics, 27 percent of farm workers are unemployed. The confederation therefore proposes that unemployment allotments continue until these persons find work.

Meanwhile, the Mapuche Indians living in the ninth and tenth regions have asked the government to publish the text modifying law No 17,729 before this law is approved, so that it may be studied by their grassroots groups.

Representatives from 90 Indian communities agreed to submit several proposals to national authorities in which they reject the division of their land and say that they want this land to always stay in their hands. They also request that their land not be sold for tourism.

The Mapuche Indians' request, signed b· (Mario Quinguentro) and (Isolde Rauque Bayaref), notes that if the Mapuche race is to continue living as a nation its ethnic and cultural nature must be respected and this fact must be included in the indian law.

The request submitted to the government makes several proposals to improve the economic situation of the Mapuches, including issuance of a special law, return of land taken away from them, better technical aid, larger credits and land use planning.

They also ask that their culture and traditional language be preserved and that their children receive scholarships.

Group Termed Marxist

PY271413Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 27 Sep 78 PY

[Commentary by Rafael Pisainer]

[Excerpt] For some reason the so-called (Ranquil) Peasant and Indian Confederation, which for years--until 1973--was recognized as an ultra-Marxist organization, has been revived. It seems that this organization was never dissolved, because yesterday it entered the limelight again to add another issue to the atmosphere of unrest which some are striving to create during the consideration of the extradition request which the United States has submitted against Chilean officers.

Meanwhile, following a policy which had previously been announced by the (?movement of the Revolutionary Left) [MIR], an anonymous call yesterday reported a bomb at the Santiago court building. After the usual search it was established that there was no such bomb, but nevertheless, the necessary precaustions had to be taken.

As for the (Ranquil) Peasant and Indian Confederation, its leaders held a press conference yesterday to support the proposals made by the self-styled National Union Coordinator [Coordinadora Nacional Sindical], also a well-known ultraleftist organization. During the press conference the (Ranquil) Peasant and Indian Confederation, which is led by (Sergio Villalobos), (?a well-known) Marxist activist criticized several subjects, beginning with the dissolution of the Agrarian Reform Corporation [CORA], effective 31 December 1978. It also expressed its concern regarding the state of Chilean agricultural production, which according to the organization has been neglecting traditional Chilean agricultural products.

To begin with, ladies and gentlemen, we must express our surprise at the obvious activity of an organization whose political hue and whose agitation of indians ans peasants in the past are quite well known. This is proof that the alleged repression exercised by the military government has been rather mild and quite indulgent. Otherwise the leaders of the (Ranquil) confederation would certainly not be giving their opinions as they are now.

TWO PRESIDENTS DEMAND UN INTERVENTION IN NICARAGUA

PA280257Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT Sep 78 PA

[Letter from Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala and Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez to Indalecio Lievano Aguirre, president of the UN General Assembly]

[Text] Mr President, international sources of unequivocal respectability have denounced serious cases of human rights violations that have been taking place in the Republic of Nicaragua and which have deeply moved the continent's democratic conscience.

We, as spokesmen of nations whose governments have signed the Universal Human Rights Declaration, feel it is our duty to denounce before that organization through your high office the violation by Nicaraguan authorities of legal agreements included in the UN Charter and the instruments which led to its development, which Nicaragua has signed.

In denouncing the distressing and dramatic situation faced by vast sectors of the Nicaraguan population, whose basic rights are being violated, we do so with respect for the principle of nonintervention, which is by no means incompatible with the international defense of human rights that the UN, as well as the Inter-American Human Rights Commission, is called upon to enforce. This simultaneous action cannot be considered antagonistic because the objective is not for the UN to assume responsibility for this political case, which has been submitted to the jurisdiction of the regional organization, but to act in defense of human rights, which in our opinion is the unshirkable responsibility of these organizations charged with insuring that they are properly respected.

Any delay on the part of international bodies to act in this respect will cause irreparable harm to defenseless people. For this reason, we request that you take the necessary measures to prevent and stop the wave of genocide that is taking place in Nicaragua, whose defenseless and innocent people are in need of universal solidarity.

We are certain that you, Mr President, will give this letter the consideration you feel is most appropriate, so that in this hour of difficulty for that Central American country, which has the right to enjoy the benefits of peace, the UN through its bodies can prevent the occurrence of acts which are in open violation of agreements approved within of the world organization.

We sign as your cordial friends: Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, president of Colombia, and Carlos Andres Perez, president of Venezuela.

VOLUNTEERS HEED LEFTIST CALL TO FIGHT AGAINST SOMOZA

PA271435Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1426 GMT 27 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 27 September (AFP)--Colombian volunteers will go to Nicaragua to join the rebel struggle against the Antastasio Somoza regime, a reliable source disclosed here today. No further details were given, but it was revealed that the volunteers were responding to an appeal by local leftists to go to that Central American Country.

The move follows a similar one in Venezuela, but so far no information has been provided on the Venezuelan volunteers travel to Nicaragua.

NATIONAL FRONT CALLS FOR RELEASE OF PRISONERS

PY231553Y Asuncion HOY in Spanish 23 Sep 78 p 9 PY

[Text] The Febrerista Revolutionary Party [PRF], the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA] and the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] have requested from Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro "the immediate release of the political prisoners who are on a hunger strike."

The joint statement, the first to be released by the members of the so-called National Front, is based on a number of events and situations which might occur. It says: "The fact that they have eaten no food during the long period just mentioned (44 days today) has seriously undermined the health of most of the citizens referred to." It points out that three of the prisoners have been hospitalized by the authorities themselves in the police polyclinic with "alarming" symptoms.

The coordination board of the National Front says "there is no exaggeration in fearing that some of those who are conducting this extreme form of protest may die."

It then refers to "the callous attitude of the government regarding requests made by the church and other institutions" and urges "in the most emphatic terms" that "an order be given for the immediate release of the political prisoners who are on a hunger strike."

The National Commission for Defense of Human Rights also urges the government to put in practice the feelings expressed after the death of His Holiness Paul VI and take a positive step by releasing the political prisoners who are still languishing in jails in conditions of oppression and torment which are contrary to the Christian conscience of the Paraguayan people.

Status of Two Emboscada Prisoners

PY252048Y Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 24 Sep 78 p 47 PY

[Text] Police have ended the solitary confinement of Guillermo Branas and Gill Ojeda. Branas has already stopped the hunger strike he was on along with other political prisoners since 11 August. Otto Gunter is still incommunicado, according to reports from his family yesterday.

Relatives of the detainees in Emboscada visited this newspaper to express their concern over the situation. Roman Noguera, brother of Anastacio Stump, and Antonia Melgarejo, common-law wife of Regino Ibarra, referred to the situation of the two detainees and of the others who are on hunger strike as a means of achieving their freedom.

Our visitors told us they were worried and desperate because they can convince neither the officials nor their loved ones to yield their positions. They told us the strikers do not accept police doctors, and that they will see only professionals who are not tied to the police.

According to the relatives, the detainees are ready to reach an agreement with the officials if they are taken out of Embaocada without having to end up at the police clinic, "because they do not believe the promise that they will be set free if they give up the strike. They do not trust the officials because others were set free without giving up their strike and another was not set free after lifting the strike."

They also said that the detainees can ro longer stand up because their legs do not respond. they keep their heads bandaged because of headaches, and also suffer from stomach cramps.

SPEECH AT UN BY ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER OZORES

PA271337Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2030 GMT 26 Sep 78 PA

[Speech by Deputy Foreign Minister Carlos Ozores at UN General Assembly in New York--presumably live]

[Excerpts] The fact that the chiefs of state or government of the nonalined countries will meet for the first time in Latin America at the sixth nonalined country summit conference 3 to 7 September 1979 in Havana opens a horizon of hope to developing countries. This summit conference will be a magnificent forum for the third world countries to study, analyze and take action to solve the great economic, political and social problems of our time within the balanced framework of nonalinement. We have great hope that the Havana summit will be a magnificent contribution to peace, security and justice in today's world.

During the general debate in this assembly last year, the chairman of the Panamanian delegation informed the other delegations that on 7 September 1977 the Panama Canal Treaty and the Permanent Canal Neutrality Treaty had been signed in Washington. I am pleased to report today that both treaties were approved by the Panamanian people in a national plebiscite held according to constitutional procedure and in the active presence of UN observers appointed by the General Secretariat. They provided testimony to the democratic and honest nature of this popular consultation.

My country greets with pleasure the peace initiatives proposed by U.S. President Jimmy Carter, who met at Camp David with Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin. Without intending to pass judgment on the contents of the agreements, which cover extremely difficult and emotional matters for the peoples of that region, we express our hope that President Carter's peace initiatives and that the spirit of Camp David will help create a climate of peace, understanding and awareness that will allow other steps leading to a just and constructive solution to this conflict.

The Panamanian Government cannot remain indifferent to the bloody events which have been taking place in the sisterly nation of Nicargua and the loss of life which in recent days has reached alarming proportions. In order to assess the impact of these tragic events on my own country's public opinion, it suffices to say that the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives, the highest representation of popular power and one of the constitutional government bodies, unanimously passed a resolution condemning the genocide committed against the Nicaraguan people.

Panama has defended and will at all times defend the peoples' right of free determination and the principle of nonintervention, which are the main elements for peaceful coexistence among the peoples of the Central American isthmus. The exercise of these rights is closely linked to the obligation of rulers to solve their domestic conflicts and international disputes by peaceful means, without endangering international peace and security or justice. Therefore, when for political reasons peace is broken in a neighboring country and the extreme of massive extermination of human life is reached. this situation must concern other peoples and governments in the region.

In view of such extremely serious events, as the UN Charter determines, there remains open the ample resource of the right of legitimate defense, individual or collective, against transgressors of peace, morality, justice and their own national culture.

In such situations it is also essential that the respective UN bodies take the proper steps so the cruel and brutal violation of human rights against the Nicaraguan people will not remain unpunished or be repeated, and also demand that the guilty parties assume responsibility for their criminal conduct. This regrettable situation, based on social, economic and political causes, has today assumed the nature of a Central American crisis which can have an explosive effect in the rest of the continent.

The flow of Nicaraguan refugees to Costa Rica and Honduras is undoubtedly accentuating this crisis, which could lead to unpredictable situations in relations between Honduras and El Salvador which have been affected for several years by the conflict existing between these two countries. My delegation, Mr Chairman, therefore believes that it must emphasize the importance for the region that the differences between Honduras and El Salvador be resolved as soon as possible and expresses its hope that the negotiations being now carried out between these two nations will conclude with the just solution we all desire for the coexistence in harmony of these sister countries. The urgency of a peaceful solution to prevent new, regrettable situations cannot be exaggerated, since the Panamanian Government has been reliably informed that international arms merchants--peddlers of ruin and crime--are trying to reactivate the Honduran-Salvadoran conflict with the treacherous purpose of distracting world public opinion from the Nicaraguan crisis.

ANTI-SOMOZA VOLUNTEER BRIGADE TO GO UNDERGROUND

PA271953Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1830 GMT 27 Sep 78 PA

[By Antonio Martinez]

[Text] Panama City, 27 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--Leaders of the brigade of Panamanian volunteers who will fight alongside the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) admitted today to this agency that they do not know when or how they will enter Nicaragua.

Jorge Aparicio, former ambassador to Algeria and former Foreign Ministry adviser who resigned his post to coordinate the selection of volunteers, said this afternoon that "the brigade will now disappear from sight to begin training." According to Aparicio, after a meeting to be held in front of the Don Bosco church in downtown Panama, "hundreds" of brigade members "will go strictly underground."

The group coordinators, among them former Health Vice Minister Hugo Spadafora, do not know what route they will have to take to enter Nicaragua, when they will leave, what weapons they will have or when they will go into combat. "The brigade itself does not yet know anything about weapons," Aparicio explained, "and as regards combat, that will be decided by the FSLN, at whose orders the internationalist volunteers will be placed."

The former ambassador was interviewed by this agency while instructing a final group of volunteers who were enrolling today. There were several former members of the Panamanian National Guard (combined army and police force) among them. Aparicio appointed four of them provisional coordinators of the group.

Several of them asked: "What do we have to take?"

"Some underwear and thick white wool socks to protect your feet from disease. A combatant with sick feet, who cannot walk, is a hindrance. He might even be regarded as a dead man. He would have to be removed from the front immediately," Aparicio explained.

The office of the Panamanian Journalists Union is the recruiting center. The Committee of Solidarity with Nicaragua also operates there. The committee also was holding a news conference to announce a continental assembly of anti-Somoza organizations and personalities. "Effective forms" of cooperation with the Nicaraguan rebels, including the formation of more brigades of volunteers of other nationalities, will be discussed at this assembly, which is scheduled for this weekend and will be attended by some 100 delegates from over 20 countries.

The Panamanian contingent has been named "Victoriano Lorenzo," after an Indian hero of the past century.

It has not been disclosed how many volunteers have shown up or how many have been accepted. According to Aparicio, that is a "military secret," but he added that one can speak of "hundreds" or even "several hundred."

The percentage of volunteers who have had military training as National Guard members seems to be considerable. The former ambassador to Algiers also refused to provide this information, explaining that no National Guard members on active duty are in the brigade. "Neither are there adventurers nor mercenaries. Make that very clear," Aparicio added.

Beside him, one of those enrolling carried a child on his shoulders. "I have a .38 pistol at home and two boxes of bullets that are getting moldy. Should I take them?" Nobody answered. He was told only to put his name on the list and to be in front of the Don Bosco church without the child in the afternoon.

A local progovernment newspaper has criticized the formation of the Victoriano Lorenzo Brigade as illegal because it violates an article in the penal code which states: "No Panamanian citizen inside or outside the national territory is permitted to hire or recruit soldiers to fight in a country with which relations are maintained. That would amount to exposing the country to the threat of war."

"Invoking those laws," Aparicio responded, "is a Somozist maneuver to frustrate the brigade's internationalist crusade. If it is a government newspaper publishing that article, it is only because this is a country where freedom of expression and pluralism exist."

Both the former ambassador and former Vice Minister Spadafora insisted there is no relationship between the brigade and the government. According to Aparicio, the brigade has not contacted any government. "Our relations," he explained, "are with the Nicaraguan people alone, thorugh the FSLN." He also denied that the Venezuelan Government is supporting them and added: "Any solidary action toward Costa Rica on the part of the Venezuelan Government has no bearing on or relationship with the brigade's purposes."

Aparicio has no military experience, but he does have abundant political and diplomatic experience. Like Spadafora, he is still quite young. The former has already had some experience with guerrilla movements. Along with Amilcar Cabral, he was one of the Guinea rebels' doctors.

The brigade does not yet have a formal structure. Spadafora and Aparicio are not yet commanders and they do not like to be called that. "Some people," Aparicio noted, "have given ranks to the brigade members. But the rank of commander is an honor acquired only in combat. Every brigade member," he went on, this time paraphrasing Napoleon, "carried a commander's insignia in his pack."

According to the organizers, the selection of volunteers has not been too strict due to the situation and the press of time. Nonetheless, effective security controls have been implemented to avoid infiltration.

Brigade members have been chosen for their political opinion, age, physical and mental condition, previous profession and military experience. FSLN members are cooperating with the organization and will coordinate the training at an undisclosed location.

To conclude, Aparicio affirmed that despite the claims made by some of the media, the decision to fight in Nicaragua is not a bluff or a farce. "The brigade's departure today is a hard slap at those who in 10 years of national liberation in Panama have not learned anything," he commented.

One of the last persons enrolled approached this reporter and identified himself as Denis Tejada, a former National Guard member and boxer, currently unemployed. He explained that he is going to fight in Nicaragua because he has many friends there and because he is impressed by what he has seen in television newscasts. One of the brigade coordinators interrupted the short chat, though, warning the volunteers that they are not to make statements of any kind.

Leave For Undisclosed Destination

PA281500Y Panama City STAR AND HERALD in English 28 Sep 78 pp 1, 7 PA

[Text] Around 200 volunteer fighters--recruited in Panama and including two citizens from West Germany--left here yesterday supposedly for Nicaragua "to fight against the Somoza dictatorship."

Hundreds of persons, including families and friends, gathered at the Don Bosco Church in Calidonia where the troops were concentrated for roll call and final instructions. many thereafter accompanying the volunteers into the church to attend services prior to their departure.

The volunteers, ranging between ages 20 and 35, wore no uniforms nor carried weapons of any type, when they left the church and climbed into several CUTSA buses for "an undisclosed destination."

Alexander Effio, 18, one of the volunteers, said he was making the trip to Nicaragua "to fight for the liberation of the Nicaraguan people and against Somoza's injustices."

Effio abandoned his studies as a sixth-year student in commerce at the Richard Newman Institute to join what he called the "freedom fighters."

Robert Javier Rodriguez, 25, joined the group "to travel." His mother didn't know he was leaving. Before boarding the bus he gave a newsman a note with a telephone number. "This is the number of a neighbor in Nuevo Veranillo where I live. Ask her to tell my mother that I have left for Nicaragua," he said.

Contacted for information as to their instructions, one CUTSA bus operator said "We are only the operators. Our contract calls to take them somewhere within the perimeter of the city."

Dr. Hugo Spadafora, commander of the "expeditionary contingent" would not make himself available for comment before entering the lead bus.

Where the fighters will be issued uniforms and weapons before entering into action remained a secret as the buses wended their way in the direction of the Bridge of the Americas.

COSTA RICA

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED WITH VENEZUELA ON GOOD WILL VISIT

PA271832Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1803 GMT 27 Sep 78 PA

[Official communique read by acting Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernard Niehaus at Juan Santamaria International Airport, San Jose, on 27 Sep--recorded]

[Text] The Costa Rican and Venezuelan governments, represented by acting Foreign Minister Bernard Niehaus Quesada and Venezuelan Ambassador to Costa Rica Rolando Groscoors, have the honor of informing you that, as a result of the exchange of notes carried out between the chief executives of the two countries which led to the good will visit to Costa Rica of Venezuelan Air Force planes, which was motivated by both nations' desire to consolidate and strengthen their relations of friendship and mutual respect for the sovereignty of peoples, this visit, based upon the strengthening of peace and territorial integrity and political independence of peoples, has fulfilled its objective and is called to an end by mutual agreement.

By this means the Costa Rican Goverrment extends its deepest and most expressive gratitude to the government and people of Venezuela for their gesture of good will and true friendship. For its part, Venezuela is grateful for the opportunity which the Costa Rican Government gave to it to express its feelings of American solidarity, its democratic ideals and its support for a policy of peace.

San Jose, 27 September 1978

GOVERNMENT WILL NOT ACCEPT OAS OBSERVER FORCES

PA280049Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0015 GMT 28 Sep 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 27 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--Costa Rican Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria said this afternoon, Thursday, that President Rodrigo Carazo's government will not allow foreign armed forces, not even OAS forces, on national territory. It was learned in Washington this afternoon that a recommendation was made at the OAS for a neutral force to be set up to watch the border between Costa Rica and Nicaragua. The interior minister rejected this idea, spoke harshly of the inter-American organization and announced that if anything were to occur, Costa Rica would not resort to the OAS.

NICARAGUAN GUNBOATS REPORTED IN NATIONAL WATERS

PA272021Y San Jose Radio Relof in Spanish 1730 GMT 27 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpt] We have received a report from Barra del Colorado, according to which three Nicaraguan gunboats are in Costa Rican jurisdictional waters. Their presence has caused concern among residents of the area. According to reports, residents are especially worried because the three gunboats of the Somoza regime are in the area where Eden Pastora, Commander Cero, has his farm, in the Barra del Colorado jurisdiction.

While this is taking place in open violation of our maritime sovereignty, 10 peaceful Civil Guards armed with pistols and rifles are watching discreetly. The Somoza gunboats in Costa Rican waters off Barra del Colorado made their arrogant attitude evident this morning when they forced 10 charter fishing vessels with U.S. tourists to leave the area by warning them that they would not be responsible if something happened to them in the area.

According to the most recent reports, the three Nicaraguan gunboats enter and leave Costa Rican waters in the Atlantic as they please. They station themselves off Barra del Colorado and cause tension among the people. The reports add that the [chartered] boats, despite the fact that they have permits from our country, had to leave the area under threat from the Somoza gunboats.

THREE ALLEGED NICARAGUAN SPIES ARRESTED BY AUTHORITIES

PA271917Y San Jose Radio Monumental in Spanish 1730 GMT 27 Sep 78 PA

[Text] The national authorities yesterday arrested three Nicaraguans accused of being spies. They were arrested in the northern border area of Penas Blancas and were brought immediately to the capital. At approximately 2000 they were taken to the first police precinct and placed at the disposal of the national security office. The arrested are three middle-aged men whose names have not been announced by the authorities. They will be announced the moment the public security institution gives details to the news media.

According to the authorities, there is no doubt that they are spies, or "ears," as they are called in the northern border region where they are very common as a result of the conflict in Nicaragua.

Meanwhile, Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria Brealey inspected the border area yesterday. He said he was unaware of the arrest of the three alleged Somoza ears. He also noted that, as a result of the emergency situation in Nicaragua, many of its citizens have arrived in Costa Rica without documents. He said that immigration authorities are trying to solve the problem by giving them special identification cards.

The minister also stated: It is a known fact that many Nicaraguans have taken advantage of the situation to infiltrate themselves and to serve as ears. He concluded by stating that the national authorities have the situation in the northern border under control and that it is expected that the cleanup operation will be concluded either Saturday or Sunday.

CUBANIZATION RISK IN NICARAGUA SEEN BY PRESIDENT CARAZO

LD281141Y Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 26 Sep 78 p 6 LD

[Angel Luis de la Calle interview with President Rodrigo Carazo: "The Only Thing We Could Do Was To Throw Stones at the Nicaraguan Planes"--date and place of interview not specified]

[Text] Question: Could you tell us briefly about the border incidents with Nicaragua?

Answer: With pleasure. We lived through a very personal experience and we suffered from a situation which we had not desired. When the attack took place on 12 September we were in fact making efforts to assume the role of possible mediators in the Nicaraguan crisis. Our chancellor had visited Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras, had talks with the presidents of these countries and agreed to stay in close contact in case the possibility arose of a formula which, without interfering in Nicaraguan affairs, might help to resolve the problem.

It was under these circumstances that the bombing and gunning down occurred of a group of lecturers and students from La Cruz College, who had gone to the border to receive the torch of independence, which arrives from Guatemala every year at this time, borne by athletes who carry it as far as Cartago, former capital of Costa Rica. The rest is common knowledge: We have submitted an angry protest to the OAS, which is now studying it.

Question: What was the reason for the military help granted by Venezuela and Panama?

Answer: Solidarity among friendly countries, international treaties we have with these nations, good will and, above all, the fact which all Costa Ricans realized and which I personally experienced on 12 September, that the only thing we could do was to pick up stones and throw them at the Nicaraguan planes. Faced with this situation I got in touch with these two governments and asked them to send what later proved to be effective--planes and helicopters--which implied a dispute, a form of persuasion and a warning that no one can come to Costa Rica and kill its citizens with impunity because there are countries prepared to help us. The planes and helicopters proved that our civilians are defended. We would take responsibility for defending the country on the ground, even though we have no weapons. There is a sentence in our national anthem which I will venture to recite to you: "When someone tries to stain your glory you will see your valiant and manly people turn crude tools into weapons." Our people have always known how to react bravely in such circumstances, but faced with advanced technology and modern armaments we needed something more to prevent a possible slaughter. What I was not prepared to do was to allow any Costa Rican city to be bombed, as has happened to Nicaraguan cities.

We Did Not Interfere in Nicaraguan Affairs

Question: Does such an attitude not differ from Costa Rica's traditional pacifism?

Answer: Not at all. We did not interfere in Nicaragua's internal affairs and for this reason we protested vigorously against the violation of our national sovereignty. But at the same time we firmly believe, with a deep democratic conviction, that all countries have the right to live in peace; and if our country took the historic decision to live in peace without an army, we believe that we have every right to remain without one. We are not going to alter the constitution. We have not even remotely considered establishing an army in Costa Rica.

Question: How do you view Nicaragua's future, Mr President, and what solution do you see to the conflict?

Answer: We see it as difficult and complicated. To a certain extent the situation was bound to become complicated after 44 years of continual rule by a single family. Without analyzing the political problem, it is clear that Nicaragua has formed a front, a feudal domain dominated by a small group. When a ruler has every facility and no affection for his people (as is proved in Somoza's case since he bombs his fellow citizens), he does not care a damn if there is no work and nothing to eat in his country.

Question: Do you believe in the effectiveness of the OAS?

Answer: What will be appreciated from the OAS is a clarification of attitudes. The world will have the chance to observe how the different countries react to a problem like this. What is impossible is to expect an international body like the OAS to act as judge. Bear in mind that there are many interests, that there are some states with democratic governments and others without, and that it is very difficult for certain nations to vote in favor of a censure motion which may rebound against them tomorrow.

Question: Do you believe that if a peaceful solution is not found to the conflict there is a danger of Cubanization in Nicaragua?

Answer: I have the impression that extremes are always adopted.

Precisely for this reason I believe that if a compromise position does not appear soon such a risk will indeed exist. In any event, I wish to point out to you that I know the Nicaraguan people very well and I know that they are clearly anticommunist. What they do have is a deep yearning to live under a democratic system.

Question: Does it not seem to you that the U.S. attitude toward this conflict is excessively ambiguous?

Answer: I believe that the United States is in fact acting more decisively at the moment than it did at the beginning, perhaps precisely because of the risk of destabilization occurring in the area and because it has realized the danger involved in a situation of this kind.

GUATEMALA

NEW NEGOTIATIONS ON BELIZE TO BEGIN WITH UK

PA271216Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2144 GMT 26 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 26 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--Guatemala's most flexible position of the past 150 years in which it has been claiming the territory of Belize from Great Britain will be adopted this week in New York. This was learned here today as an upcoming meeting between Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez and British Foreign Secretary David Owen was announced. It will be a new round of negotiations to discuss the future status of the Belizean territory.

According to Vice President Francisco Villagran Kramer, Guatemala will demonstrate that it is willing to seek a solution to its territorial claim from a "realistic and intelligent position," basically taking into account the aspirations of the people of Belize. Although it was not officially acknowledged, it was learned in this capital that Guatemala would even be willing to accept the return of only part of the Belizean territory in exchange for recognition of Belize's independence. The territory in question would give Guatemala's northern province of El Peten an outlet to the Caribbean Sea.

The Guatemalan foreign minister and the British foreign secretary will both be in New York this week in view of the UN General Assembly 33d session. Belizean Prime Minister George Price and opposition leader Dean Lido will also participate in the new round of British-Guatemalan negotiations. Guatemala will maintain at the UN Assembly that that forum is not the appropriate place to discuss the Belizean case because it is under direct negotiation between that country and Great Britain. The UN Assembly has issued resolutions over the past few years supporting independence for Belize which have been rejected by Guatemala.

HONDURAS

THIRTEEN SANDINISTS ARRESTED NEAR BORDER

PA271927Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1705 GMT 27 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 27 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran Army arrested 13 members of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) on Monday, local radio stations reported here today. According to the stations, the guerrillas had apparently crossed the border to get food and rest before initiating a counteroffensive against the Somoza government. They were caught close to the eastern border post of "Las Manos," when the Sandinists crossed into Honduran territory, machineguns in hand. After their arrest the army took them to Tegucigalpa, where they were subjected to close interrogation by the national investigation office. With the arrest of the 13 rebels there are now 100 Sandinists in the hands of the Honduran Army, which has said that they are not common prisoners but "under custody," since no charges have been lodged against them.

UNIVERSITY BRIGADES WILL MONITOR NICARAGUAN BORDER

PA272147Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1905 GMT 27 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 27 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran University Students Federation (FEUH) announced here today that special brigades will be posted along the Honduran border with Nicaragua in order to guard it. The announcement was made by the president of the Federation of Central American University Students (FEUCA) and former President of FEUH Olvin Rodriguez in a formal talk held with newsmen at the university campus.

Rodriguez explained: "Our intention is to determine if the Honduran Army is mobilizing troops to help the Nicaraguan regime or if Nicaraguan troops and planes penetrate Honduran territory." The university leader said that either action would be denounced before the Honduran public and the world at large by the FEUH. The brigades will work round the clock and will be comprised of citizens from towns located near the Nicaraguan border, FEUH said.

BOMB THREATS MADE AGAINST VENEZUELAN EMBASSY

PA271803Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1445 GMT 27 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 27 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--The Venezuelan Embassy in this capital has received repeated telephone threats that it and the homes of the ambassador and other embassy officials will be blown up by powerful bombs. Honduran Foreign Minister Col Roberto Palma Galvez made an official announcement today, Wednesday, adding that the Venezuelan diplomatic mission is receiving all the necessary protection.

It has also been learned that special investigations will be conducted in connection with these phone calls, which contained threats uttered by both female and male voices. Two embassies have now been issued bomb threats, the other being the Costa Rican Embassy, which is also receiving special police protection.

The other embassies in Tegucigalpa are guarded by police agents armed with carbines and regulation pistols, but heavier protection is reportedly being considered.

The Venezuelan Embassy began receiving threats after it was learned yesterday, Tuesday, that a Nicaraguan student who had been living in Honduras for some time had sought refuge there. The student claims that a paramilitary body sympathizing with the current Nicaraguan regime exists in Honduras and that Honduran investigation departments cooperate closely with a number of Nicaraguan agents who operate in Tegucigalpa. These claims have been officially denied by the Honduran military government's press secretariat, which once again reiterated that Honduras is and will contine to be neutral concerning the domestic affairs of other countries.

NICARAGUA

SOMOZA ORDERS RELEASE OF TOP OPPOSITION LEADERS

PA271648Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1623 GMT 27 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 27 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--On Tuesday night the Nicaraguan Government ordered the release of high-ranking members of the opposition to Gen Anastasio Somoza's government. The report was fully confirmed to ACAN-EFE today, Wednesday, by Rafael Cano, Nicaraguan secretary of information and the press.

In a recent official communique, President Somoza's government admitted that there are some 350 prisoners in the country's jails. However, the release order does not apply to persons charged with common crimes such as attacks on military barracks, terrorism and damage to private property or to persons guilty of hurling contact bombs.

The government order will nonetheless benefit high-ranking leaders of the Broad Opposition Front (FAO), who called a general strike on 25 August for an indefinite period.

Adolfo Calero Portocarrero, Pedro J. Quintanilla, Adolfo Evertz, Domingo Sanchez Salgado, Roger Fisher and others will reportedly be released in the next few hours. The order to release the ranking opposition leaders was dictated by the government by way of honoring point 5 of the 17th OAS consultation meeting. In point 5 the OAS urged the Nicaraguan Government to move forward the date of a visit to that country by a delegation of the Inter-American Human Rights Commission. The visit was previously scheduled for 5 October. For its part, the government announced that the doors of the country are open to the commission and that it may move the 5 October date for its visit forward to any date that it considers convenient.

CONSERVATIVE LEADER DENIES ACCEPTANCE OF U.S. MEDIATION

PA280348Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 28 Sep 78 PA

[Text] The Nicaraguan Conservative Party [PCN] has denied that it accepted U.S. mediation to solve the crisis. The president of the party has stated that if a peaceful solution is not found, further violence will result. Let us listen to PCN President Alvaro Chamorro, who referred to matters concerning his country: [begin Chamorro recording] [words indistinct] to talk through Radio Reloj which, I understand, is heard throughout Central America and especially in Nicaragua. As president of the Nicaraguan Conservative Party, I would like to take this opportunity to emphatically and categorically deny reports that have been disseminated in this country. Many persons heard these reports through Radio Reloj newscasts. They also appeared in today's NOVEDADES, Nicaragua's official newspaper. [words indistinct] false and biased statements which indicate that the PCN [words indistinct]. These reports, I can tell you, are unfounded and untrue. The PCN has at no time announced that it is willing to accept the U.S. proposal for mediation, regarding international mediation in order to solve the difficult period that Nicaragua is going through. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT BEGINNING CONSOLIDATION PHASE

PA272243Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1942 GMT 27 Sep 78 PA

[By Agustin Fuentes]

[Excerpts] Managua, 27 Sep (LATIN)--The government today entered a new phase designed to consolidate its control of the domestic situation and improve its international position at the end of a month-old strike during which the National Guard crushed the attempted popular insurrection, resulting in hundreds of deaths and injuries.

Inside the country government forces are in control of the situation and are engaged in sporadic and widespread mopping-up operations in the mountains surrounding the cities that had been partially occupied by the guerrillas--Leon, Chinandega, Esteli, Masaya and Matagalpa.

In the urban areas, the Red Cross and firemen reported that the last 24 hours have been peaceful.

In various cities where commercial sectors were destroyed by fires set by the guerrillas, as well as by the air and land counterattack launched by the National Guard, the government has organized cleanup brigades and food distribution centers, according to official sources.

In Esteli, a census has been taken of refugee families who have returned to the city after hiding in the mountains or taking refuge in neighboring cities for many days.

Each family will receive a weekly food ration from the government for approximately 1 month. The sources added that the government believes there will be enough grain available after that time to be harvested.

Independent radio stations were permitted to air newscasts for the first time since the state of siege was imposed. In addition, it was announced that political prisoners charged with minor offenses would be released today, with the exception of those accused of common criminal acts, attacks on military barracks, terrorism, vandalism and arson.

Spokesmen for the government said that when the Interamerican Human Rights Commission arrives, which may be "at any moment," only those who must be brought before military or judicial courts will remain in jail.

They also expressed hope that the government will not need to extend the suspension of constitutional guarantees which is due to expire on 1? October.

Businessmen who resumed activities Monday told LATIN that they did so spontaneously, without awaiting the recommendations of the Chamber of Commerce, whose legal status was annulled by the government after it urged its members to support the strike called by the Broad Opposition Front.

DAILY SURVEY OF OPERATING BUSINESSES ENDS

PA280415Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 28 Sep 78 PA

[Communique No 71 issued on 27 Sep by the Press and Information Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic]

[Text] The Press and Information Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic notifies citizens that in a cabinet meeting held today, 27 September, it was agreed to suspend the daily census taken in order to determine the percentage of stores and industries open in the city of Managua because it was confirmed today that almost 100 percent of the shops, grocery stores, industries and small and large professional service establishments were operating normally.

[Signed] The Press and Information Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic

CONSTRUCTION WORK REPORTED BACK TO NORMAL

PA270452Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0344 GMT 27 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Normal construction work has been resumed completely in Managua. About (4,000) construction workers decided to end the strike ordered by the extremist organizations.

These organizations have lost the workers' support, a spokesman reported, because they mixed trade union activities with political activities, forcing the large mass of construction workers to become docile instruments of the parties opposed to the government and allied to the extreme leftwing. This situation, the spokesman said, has placed the workers in a crisis situation. Their income has been reduced to nothing since their work sites were closed.

FIDEL CASTRO MEETS WITH SANDINIST LEADER BORGES

FL271111Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 27 Sep 78 FL

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee, has received Tomas Borges, founder and member of the national directorate of the Nicaraguan Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN]. At the meeting Borges briefed Fidel on the latest developments in his country--the heroic resistance of his people and its vanguard, the FSLN, against the atrocities of the Somoza National Guard, the prospects of the struggle and the need for greater international solidarity. The Nicaraguan leader also referred to individual efforts undertaken in the struggle by all anti-Somoza forces to overthrow the tyranny and to establish a national unity government which is democratic and popular.

Borges Holds Press Conference

FL280055Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2336 GMT 27 Sep 78 FL

[Text] The Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], after its latest actions, has been strengthened politically and in the immediate future will redeploy to move the armed struggle from the cities to rural areas of Nicaragua. Commander Tomas Borges Martinez has made this statement.

The founder and member of the FSLN asserted at a press conference held this afternoon at the Union of Cuban Journalists--UPEC--that the latest actions have not been a military defeat but a tactical retreat to initiate the struggle in the mountainous areas. He indicated that the Sandinist forces apparently suffered a defeat at the hands of the National Guard. However, the guerrilla forces' casualties were very slight and most of the dead and wounded were from among the civilian population and Somoza's troops. He explained that it can be estimated that there have been 5,000 dead and 8,000 wounded as a result of the repression by Somoza in Nicaragua.

Tomas Borges asserted that the fall of Somoza will be the dawn of his country and that the FSLN will support any national government in which the different political forces of Nicaragua can participate, however, the Sandinist leader asserted, such a government must fulfill the political program of the front, confiscate the properties of the Somoza family and form a new army to replace the unstable Nicaraguan National Guard.

Replying to questions posed by national and foreign journalists who participated in the press conference, Borges pointed out that it is possible that Somoza will remain in power for some time. However, he added, the revolutionary war will be carried out [words indistinct]. The front has a great reserve of combatants who will enter into action within the new context of the armed struggle. FSLN leader Tomas Borges emphasized that they never will talk with the dictatorship unless they have to do it at the point of a gun. He then condemned the maneuvers of the U.S. Government and Nicaraguan reactionaries which want the dictator Somoza to eliminate the front in order to seek an imposed solution against the Nicaraguan people. The U.S. policy of support for the dictator Somoza is nothing new and does not surprise the Nicaraguan people, Borges stressed. He described the Organization of American States as an organized lie and blackmail tool in America.

After asserting that the Sandinists have not received weapons from any country he said that Israel last May sent sophisticated weapons of every type to the Somoza dictatorship so that it could fight the revolutionary war. During the press conference Tomas Borges, founder of the FSLN, called for converting the emotional solidarity they are receiving into a real political and practical solidarity.

He stressed that the Cuban revolution and its Commander in Chief Fidel Castro always have distinguished themselves by their militant and moral solidarity with the Nicaraguan people's revolutionary struggle. Borges explained that the front believes that the unity of Nicaraguan revolutionaries with other democratic forces is indispensable to assure the changes which inevitably will take place in Nicaragua. Lastly, he recognized that Panama, Venezuela, Mexico, Costa Rica and other nations, in one way or another, have become interested in the situation of the Nicaraguan people and are seeking solutions that differ from those of the United States.

Further Details

FL280112Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Sep 78 FL

[Text] Tomas Borges, founder of the Nicaraguan FSLN and member of its national directorate, this afternoon held a press conference with national and foreign journalists, at the UPEC auditorium. Replying to various questions, the Sandinist leader discussed aspects of the Nicaraguan people's struggle. [begin Borges recording] The FSLN repudiates any attempt at creating a solution to the Nicaraguan problem that is contrary to the interests of our people. The price for the blood that has been shed cannot be anything except full and definitive liberation. The FSLN supports the proposed provisional government, the platform of the Group of 12, the determination to confiscate the properties of the dynastic family and the formation of a new democratic and people's army. As long as these objectives are not fulfilled, the Sandinist combatants will continue the fight. As long as there is a single unit of the National Guard, the FSLN will continue the revolutionary war.

The FSLN believes that the unity of Nicaraguan revolutionaries with other democratic forces is indispensable in assuring consistency in the changes which inevitably will take place in Nicaragua. From this generous forum we issue a call so that the emotional solidarity that we are now receiving is converted into real political and practical solidarity. We will try to reach all people on this earth so that the heroic struggle of the Nicaraguan people is supported by a gigantic effort of all the world's people for the purpose of bringing a new dawn to Nicaragua and Central America. [end recording]

RESULTS OF U.S. ENVOY'S VISIT TO NICARAGUA REPORTED

FL271121Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 27 Sep 78 FL

[Text] Following U.S. Ambassador William Jorden's visit to Nicaragua there have been several changes of attitude in the industrial and commercial sectors which are opposed to the Somoza government. According to the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry, Jorden told Somoza that there was a need to open talks with the opposition and to find an end to the conflict. The Sandinist National Liberation Front and the Broad Opposition Front have stated that they will not hold any talks with the government.

MALMIERCA MEETS WITH FOREIGN MINISTERS AT UN

FL272046Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2035 GMT 27 Sep 78 FL

[Text] At the United Nations, Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has continued holding consultations and exchanges of viewpoints with ministers of nonalined countries and other states that maintain friendly relations with Cuba. The Cuban foreign minister, who is attending the 33d UN General Assembly, met with Ethiopian Foreign Minister Feleke Gedle-Giorgis. The two foreign ministers examined the fruitful cooperation between Cuba and Ethiopia and the cooperation which both countries give to international organizations.

Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca also shared an exchange of viewpoints with his Tanzanian counterpart, Benjamin Mkapa, and Tanzanian ambassador to the United Nations, Salim A. Salim, who is chairman of the UN committee on decolonization. During his meeting at the United Nations with the Tanzanian foreign minister and ambassador to the United Nations, Malmierca discussed the strengthening of ties between the two countries, the situation in Southern Africa and cooperation within the nonalined countries movement.

The Cuban foreign minister also met with the incumbent president of the nonalined countries movement, A. Hameed, who is foreign minister of Sri Lanka. They examined future conferences of the movement. Isidoro Malmierca, who is attending the 33d UN General Assembly in New York, met with Chadian Foreign Minister Guerina Kotiga. Lastly, Malmierca had a friendly talk with Ecudorean Foreign Minister Jose Ayala Lasso.

HAVANA REPORTS BOMBING OF U.S. PLANE BOUND FOR CUBA

FL271137Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 27 Sep 78 FL

[Text] A tiny counterrevolutionay group of Cuban origin, which appears to have operated out of Miami, has claimed responsibility for blowing up a North American airplane in midflight while it was en route to Cuba.

ARNALDO MILIAN NOTES PROGRESS IN 1978 TUBER PRODUCTION

FL271857Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1802 GMT 27 Sep 78 FL

[Text] PCC Politburo member Arnaldo Milian Castro has described as successful the development of work of the provinces committed to produce 3 quintals of tubers per person this year. Milian chaired a meeting held in Sancti Spiritus to assess the production of tubers. Leaders and officials of the party, Agriculture Ministry, National Association of Small Farmers and agricultural-livestock workers unions of Matanzas, Villa Clara, Cienfuegos, Ciego de Avila and Camaguey participated in the meeting.

In speaking at the meeting, Milian said that there are still certain deficiencies which must be overcome. He referred to the creation of plans at the level of municipalities where tubers and vegetables are harvested. Milian proposed that a tribute be organized in the most outstanding provice to the ones which fulfill the 300-pound per capita pledge and that the tribute be held on 10 January 1979, the fourth anniversary of the revolution in production.

At the Sancti Spirtus meeting to evaluate tubers production, it was announced that the participating provinces, with the exception of Camaguey, have ratified their pledge to fulfill the established goal. With regard to the experience gained in Sancti Spiritus with the Malanga islena japonesa, it was reported that plans were fulfilled by the application of organizational and control measures. The Sancti Spiritus representatives explained that they prevented the loss of large quantities of Malanga by applying control measures at every field and they moved from one field to another only when work on the former was completed. PCC Central Committee alternate member Joaquin Bernal Camero, Rafael Valdes and Humberto Miguel Fernandez, party first secretaries in Sancti Spiritus, Ciego de Avila and Cienfuegos, respectively, participated in the meeting.

TRADE UNION DELEGATION VISITING GUYANA

FL261131Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 26 Sep 78 FL

[Text] A Cuban trade union delegation is in Georgetown [Guyana] to participate in activities to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the Guyana trade union council, the top trade union entity in that country.

JUSTICE MINISTER ARRIVES IN LISBON EN ROUTE TO ANGOLA

FL271731Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Sep 78 FL

[Text] Lisbon--Cuban Justice Minister Armando Torres has arrived in Lisbon en route to the People's Republic of Angola. He was received at the local airport by Portuguese Justice Minister Mario Raposo, who welcomed him in the name of the Portuguese Government. The two ministers had a friendly meeting in accordance with the good relations existing between the Cuban and Portuguese states.

FOREIGN TRADE MINISTRY VISITED BY TANZANIAN DELEGATION

FL261845Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1803 GMT 26 Sep 78 FL

[Text] The United Republic of Tanzania delegation, now on the fourth working day of its visit to our country, where the second meeting on intergovernmental affairs is being held, was received at the Foreign Trade Ministry at noon today. Marcelo Fernandez Font, minister of foreign trade and member of the PCC Central Committee, welcomed the delegation headed by Nicholas Kuhanga, education minister of that African country. The Tanzanian delegation, which includes directors and officials of the fishing industry, public health, construction, foreign trade, finance and culture, will remain in Cuba until 1 October, after signing a cooperation protocol. So far, the Tanzanian Government delegation has visited the public health, education, fishing industry, agriculture and foreign trade ministries, the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, and other agencies.

Rodriguez Llompart Receives Kuhanga

FL262207Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 26 Sep 78 FL

[Text] Hector Rodriguez Llompart, member of the PCC Central Committee and minister-president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, has received the delegation headed by Tanzanian National Education Minister Nicholas Kuhanga. The delegation came to our country to participate in the second Cuban-Tanzanian intergovernmental meeting. Nicholas Kuhanga and [Cuban Domestic Trade Minister] Serafin Fernandez head the delegations of their respective governments to the working meeting that will conclude in our capital on Saturday.

MIRET PRIETO MEETS WITH REUNION COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER

FL272145Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 27 Sep 78 FL

[Text] PCC Politburo member Pedro Miret Prieto has received (Paul Berges), secretary general of the Communist Party of Reunion. The party leader was accompanied by his wife, (Laurence Berges), member of the Reunion Communist Party Central Committee and journalist for the newspaper (TESTIMONIO). Lionel Soto, member of the PCC Central Committee and chief of its general department of foreign relations, and Claudio Ramos and Magdalena Serra, section chief and official, respectively, in that department, participated in the meeting for the Cuban side. During the meeting, conducted in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, the two sides exchanged viewpoints on the current international political situation and prospects for greater cooperation in the immediate future.

JAMAICA

NAMIBIAN STUDENTS TO ARRIVE FOR TECHNICAL TRAINING

FL261451Y Kingston Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 26 Sep 78 FL

[Text] Thirty-six Namibian students will arrive on this island tonight to begin training in various subject areas as part of the technical assistance given to them by the Government of Jamaica to the African liberation struggle. The students have been granted scholarships by the government in collaboration with the Commonwealth Secretariat.

They will be trained in the areas of accounting, teacher training, secretarial work, agriculture, public health, medical technology, nursing and midwifery. The students will be met on arrival at the Norman Manley airport by Education Minister Senator Phyllis McPherson-Russell, representatives of the ministries of foreign affairs, health and public service. The visiting Commonwealth Secretary General Shridath Ramphal will also be in the welcoming party.

$16.5 MILLION LOAN GRANTED BY UK FOR DEVELOPMENT

FL251840Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 22 Sep 78 p 1 FL

[Text] The British Government yesterday lent the Jamaican Government $16.5 million.

The new loan is to be drawn in two tranches and is part of the United Kingdom's contribution to the Caribbean development facility established at the Caribbean group meeting in Washington in June, a news release from the British High Commission states.

The agreement for the loan, the first tranche of which is 2,750,000 pounds (J$8.9 million) was signed at the Ministry of Finance yesterday morning by Senator Richard Fletcher, minister of state for planning, and the acting British high commissioner, Mr Roy Beveridge.

The second tranche is to become available three months later, according to the British High Commission. Yesterday's loan is the second programme loan to Jamaica from the British Government. The first programme loan, for J$50 million, was made in January of this year. The loan is to be for the purchase of goods and services in the United Kingdom.

According to the API [Agency for Public Information], disbursement period of the loan for United Kingdom imports and consultancies expires March 1980.

The first tranche of the loan is repayable over 23 years in 42 installments of 62,000 pounds (J$202,929) which fall due each March and September from 1982.

Interest is to be paid at the rate of six per cent per annum on each drawing from next year March.

Allocations from the loan, which may only be used to make direct payments, will cover both the public and private sectors. The loan will not be used to meet the cost of direct or indirect taxes, and defence products and consumer imports are not eligible for allocations. In addition, the purchase of intermediate goods and services is covered by the loan only when the finished product is for export. Consultancies are defined under the agreement as United Kingdom contracts to be paid directly by the government or its agencies.

PERU

AERONAUTICS MINISTER TO VISIT BOLIVIA'S PEREDA

PY270353Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 27 Sep 78 PY

[Summary] Peruvian Aeronautics Minister Gen Jorge Tamayo de la Flor will meet with Bolivian President Juan Pereda Asbun and the Bolivian defense minister day after tomorrow. Tamayo de la Flor will arrive in La Paz Wednesday with his wife and an official party.

URUGUAY

PARTIES MUST REORGANIZE, SAYS ARMY SPOKESMAN

PY231841Y Montevideo Cadena de Oro del Interior in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Sep 78 PY

[Excerpts] The anniversary of the death of Gen Jose Gervasio Artigas was commemorated today at a ceremony attended by high officials in Independence Park. Gen Abdon Raimundez, commander of the 4th Division, spoke for the armed forces at the ceremony.

General Raimundez referred to the commitment to achieve national recovery, and reiterated the commitment to preserve first the national well-being, economic well-being and the just distribution of wealth.

He said the country does not need tutoring in ways to preserve the principles of dignity and protect human rights. Revenge will not be allowed, he pointed out, because base passion cannot be allowed to those searching for the social well-being of the country. He emphasized: We will not cease our efforts or fail to fulfill the stages needed to deliver to the people [words indistinct] the country which belongs to them against pressure and diversionary or foreign interests.

We will fulfill the basic political plan which has been set. The traditional political parties must reunite, reorganize and study their responsibilities in the process of reconstruction of political institutions, and never lose sight of the objectives they must fulfill. A cautious opening will be carried out concerning great national political matters, and the people will have active, direct participation in this; we will see that the voters are fully aware of what they are deciding. The armed forces will continue to provide national security to protect the country from all forms of internal and foreign interference and to protect the progress of achieving national objectives.

VENEZUELA

AIRCRAFT RETURN FROM MISSION IN PANAMA

PA280433Y Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpt] A high-ranking spokesman of the Panamanian Government has told RPC that the Venezuelan Canberra and Bronco bombers have returned to their bases in Venezuela. He said they had remained in Panama while there was a possibility that they would enter into joint action with Panamanian forces in defense of Costa Rica in the event Nicaragua violated its territorial integrity.

The high-level government spokesman also said that the Panamanian Air Force helicopters that had been on the border with Costa Rica will return to their bases tomorrow at the request of the Costa Rican Government. The return of these units to their bases is due to the fact that the tense situation has subsided and, above all, to the Costa Rican Government's desire to promote detente among the Central American countries.